

Filed for intro on 05/01/2002

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 712
By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the gallant members of the Fall Branch Volunteer Fire Department on the occasion of their 50th anniversary.

WHEREAS, the citizens of Tennessee enjoy a wonderful quality of life, and we owe much to the brave men and women who bravely fight fires and defend our homes and our workplaces against destruction by fire; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the elected representatives of the state of Tennessee should pause to pay tribute to these exemplary citizens who give unselfishly of themselves, their time, and their talents to perpetuate the public safety; and

WHEREAS, the laudable individuals who comprise Fall Branch Volunteer Fire Department represent one such exemplary group of citizens; on May 25, 2002, the department is celebrating fifty years of quality service to the Fall Branch community; and

WHEREAS, chartered in 1952, the Fall Branch Volunteer Fire Department began with a single fire truck, a 1924 open-top Seagrave, and a dozen volunteer members; and

SJR0712

01416584

WHEREAS, primarily funded by the Fall Branch Ruritan Club during its early stages, the department first housed its equipment in the Agriculture Shop at Fall Branch School, and the volunteers answered four calls during their first year; and

WHEREAS, during its five decades of existence, the department has continuously expanded and enhanced the superb fire service it provides to the Fall Branch community; and

WHEREAS, the department is now comprised of thirty selfless volunteers, including ten junior members; and

WHEREAS, true innovators in fire protection, the Fall Branch Volunteer Fire Department was one of the first departments in its region to establish a junior program; and

WHEREAS, these praiseworthy community servants now carry out their duties with the assistance of two pumpers, two tankers, one brush unit, one pick-up truck, and one medical / first responder unit; and

WHEREAS, the department moved into its current home in 1976; a committee is currently searching for land so that the department may build a larger, modern facility that will allow it to improve the high standard of fire service it already provides; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the members of the Fall Branch Volunteer Fire Department have saved many homes and countless memories for their friends and neighbors; they presently respond to approximately four hundred calls per year; and

WHEREAS, currently thriving under the able guidance of Chief Roger Phillips, the department has greatly benefited in the past from the honorable and astute leadership of former Chiefs Carl Cochran, George Bacon, Elmer Simpson, Dwight Carr, and Jim Dawson; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Fall Branch Fire Department embody the noble precepts that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and they serve as exceptional ambassadors of this state; and

WHEREAS, they are worthy of our most effusive thanks for a difficult job well done; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend the members of the Fall Branch Volunteer Fire Department for fifty years of diligent and dedicated service to their community, as we reflect on their unsurpassed public service and outstanding character, and wish these courageous Tennesseans much continued success in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.